

L21B

RELEASED IN FULL

CONFIDENTIALDRAFT CONTINGENCY press Q/A

Q. Is the Department doing anything about the Rwandan embassy's solicitation of funds for the Rwandan army?

A. THE DEPARTMENT HAS LEARNED THAT THE RWANDAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAS CIRCULATED A LETTER INVITING CONTRIBUTIONS TO AN EMBASSY BANK ACCOUNT FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE RWANDAN ARMED FORCES.

IN VIEW OF THE PRESENT SITUATION, INCLUDING THE UN ARMS EMBARGO ON RWANDA AND ALLEGATIONS THAT THE RWANDAN ARMED FORCES HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN ATROCITIES AND VIOLATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW, THE DEPARTMENT STRONGLY CONDEMNS THIS ACTION. WE HAVE TOLD THE RWANDAN AMBASSADOR THAT THE EMBASSY MUST CEASE THIS ACTIVITY. WE WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE SITUATION CLOSELY.

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